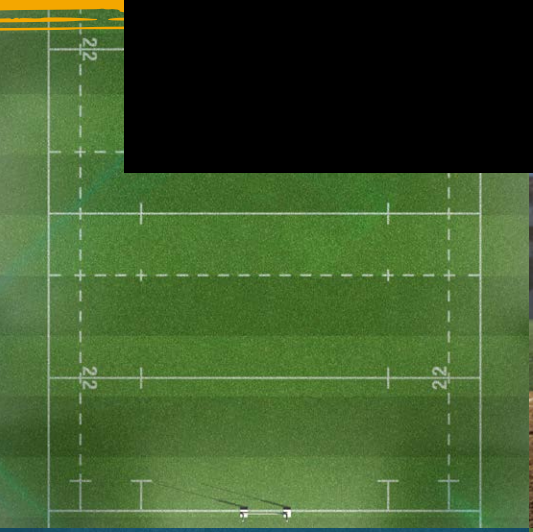
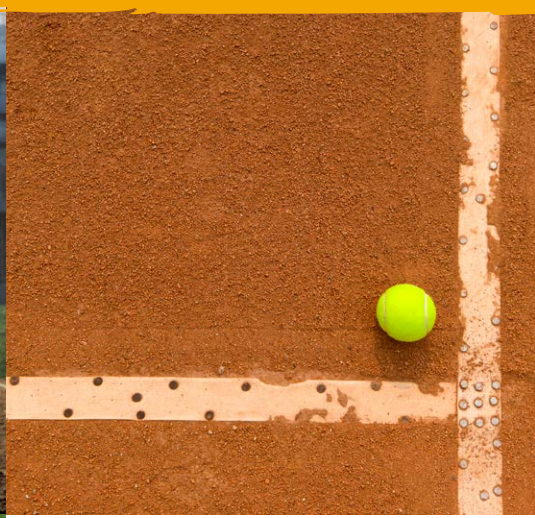
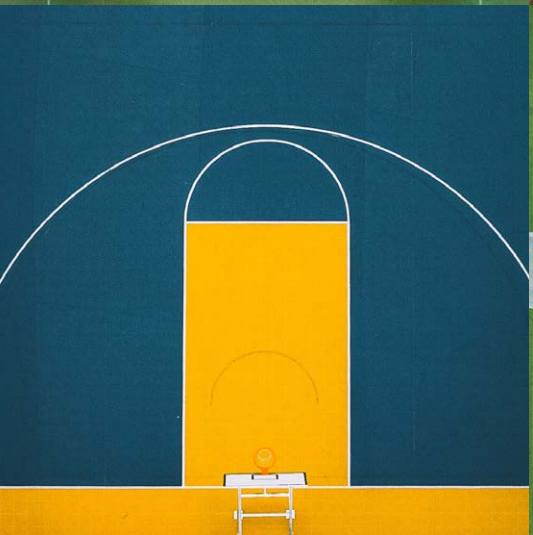
RACISM. IT STOPS WITH ME

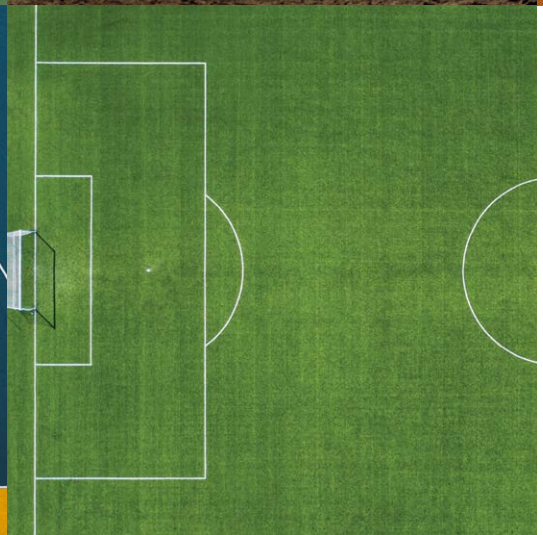
RACISM. NOBODY WINS.

GUIDE TO BYSTANDER INTERVENTION









Australian Human Rights Commission

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GUIDE TO BYSTANDER INTERVENTION

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FOREWORD

A bystander is anyone who witnesses a racist incident. Bystander anti-racism is action taken by spectators or others in response to incidents of interpersonal racism. At sporting events, racism can occur in many forms that are often not recognised or are denied as racism. This can include jokes, and snide or discriminatory comments. Racism can occur between and toward spectators, players and officials. Racism can also occur in any setting including at events, training, meetings, in car parks and online.

Bystanders can play an important role in calling out racism, challenging perpetrators and providing support to targets of racism. Often, when bystanders speak up, others speak up in support. When a few people come together as strangers to speak against racism, it sends a powerful message for change.

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WITH ME

However, taking bystander action can be challenging at times. The below information may be useful for organisational staff, players, spectators, match officials, volunteers, and other relevant personnel. It details some actions that can be taken when witnessing an incident of interpersonal racism. For more information, please visit the ***Racism. It Stops With Me*** website: https://itstopswithme.humanrights.gov.au/.

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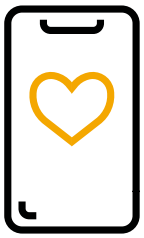
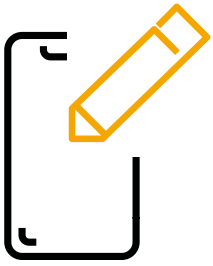
BYSTANDER INTERVENTION



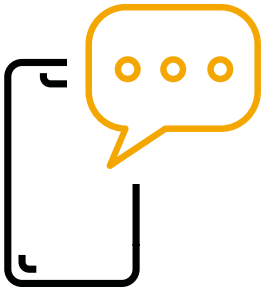
SUPPORT

- If you witness someone being racially targeted in public, an important way to support the target is to stand with them and check if they're feeling safe.
- If the situation is unsafe, try to remove yourself and the target to a safer location.
- If it is safe to do so, try to diffuse the situation by remaining calm and asking the perpetrator to stop saying or doing harmful things.
- Another approach to diffuse the situation is to ask open-ended questions of the perpetrator. This might include questions such as, "Why did you say that?". It is important to identify the behaviour or comment as racist or discriminatory.



RECORD

- Recording the incident by video or audio can help provide evidence to authorities for further investigation.
- If recording the incident is not an option, you could make a few notes such as time, date and location. It may also be useful to make a written or audio record of the physical appearance of the perpetrator and details of the incident (what happened, what was said or done etc.) afterwards to help remember the details.
- If there are other witnesses who may give further evidence, it would be helpful to get their contact details if they consent.



REPORT

- Calling the police on 000 may be the best response if you think you or somebody else may be in danger. You can also report behaviour that you think might be a criminal offense by phoning the police assistance line on 131 444. In some cases, it may not be practical to call the police.
- Where possible, report the incident to any relevant authorities such as a member of staff or security guard as soon as practicable. If you are at a sporting match, there may be hotlines or SMS lines you can contact to report a racist incident – check for this information on stadium screens, posters or on stadium or sporting social channels.
- Sporting clubs often have a designated complaint handling officer. This process may be used to facilitate an ongoing investigation into the incident.

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National Info Service
1300 656 419
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Human Rights Commision
www.humanrights.gov.au

This resource has been created by the Australian Human Rights Commission, in collaboration with national, state and territory-based sporting organisations and venues. For additional resources and information about the project, please visit **https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/race-discrimination/publications/%20guide-addressing-spectator-racism-sports-2021.**